

A Cooperative Learning Task for Writing Equations in Words and Symbols

- Students work in pairs
- Person A and Person B have different hand outs

Instructions to Students:

1. Read the left hand column
2. Complete the middle column
3. Fold the paper so the first column is hidden
4. Pass the paper to your partner
5. Your partner reads the middle column and fills in the right hand column
6. In pairs, check the first and last columns and discuss.

Handout for person A

Algebra	Equivalent word problem	Algebra
$5n - 2 = 26$		
$3(a + 4) = 18$		
$n^2 + 3n = 40$	The sum of a number squared and three times that number is forty	
$(n+6)(n-2) = 65$		
$3p + 11 = 5p + 1$		

Handout for person B

Algebra	Equivalent word problem	Algebra
$2(x+6) = 10$		
$\frac{1}{2}(n - 5) = 21$		
$12 - 3n = 5$		
$x(x + 6) = 12$		
$b + 7(b - 1) = 10$		

